

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 14, 15, 22, 23, 25-29, and 31 are currently pending in the present application.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 23 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejections. Claim 23 was amended to overcome the Examiner's § 112 concerns. It is now believed that claim 23 is in allowable condition.

Otherwise, Applicant respectfully traverses all claim rejections for the reasons that follow:

I. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 14, 15, 22, 23, AND 25-28 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 14, 15, 22, 23, and 25-28 were rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner takes issue with certain antecedent basis concerns of claims 22 and 23.

Applicant has amended claims 22 and 23 to address the Examiner's § 112, second paragraph, concerns. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to these claims do not add new matter. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 14, 15, 22, 23, and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

II. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 14, 15, 22, 25-27, AND 31 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 14, 15, 22, 25-27, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,897,400 to Scofield ("Scofield"). Respectfully, Applicant traverses.

Scofield is directed to "brackets for radio sets mounted on automobiles, airplanes, boats and other automotive devices." (Scofield, col. 1, lines 1-4). The bracket disclosed in Scofield is specifically configured to rigidly hold a radio during rough travel. (Scofield, col. 1, lines 5-10). Furthermore, the radio bracket disclosed in Scofield is designed to be lowered into an accessible position. (Scofield, col. 1, lines 10-12). The first support as disclosed in Scofield is configured to mount against a dash board in a car, while the second support is configured to

support a radio. Scofield does not disclose “a ... support structured to couple to a ... loudspeaker” as recited in claims 22 and 32.

The Examiner asserts that the first and second supports are designed to have the "purpose" or a "plan or protocol for carrying out or accomplishing something," and that the first and second supports are "for the purpose" of supporting and connecting one thing to another. (Office Action, page 3). However, Claims 22 and 31 have been amended herein to recite that the first and second supports are "**structured** to couple" to respective loudspeakers. In this manner, claims 22 and 31 do not merely recite the purpose for which a structure is intended to be employed, but rather explicitly place structural limitations on the first and second supports themselves. The first support of Scofield is structured to mount against a dash board in a car and the second support is structured to support a radio – neither support of Scofield is structured to couple to a loudspeaker.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 22 and 31 are allowable over Scofield. Furthermore, since claims 14, 15, 22, and 25-27 ultimately depend from claim 22, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable over Scofield for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 14, 15, 22, 25-27, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

III. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 28 AND 29 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Scofield in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,154,384 to Owens (hereinafter “Owens”), also referred to as Owens in the Office Action. Respectfully, Applicant traverses.

As described above with respect to the anticipation rejections of claims 14, 15, 22, 25-27, and 31, Scofield does not disclose every element of claim 22, from which claims 28 and 29 ultimately depend. For example, Scofield does not disclose first and second supports "**structured** to couple" to respective loudspeakers. Furthermore, any reading of Owens makes clear that this reference fails to cure the critical deficiencies of Scofield as applied against parent claim 22.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 22, from which claims 28 and 29 ultimately depend, is not obvious over Scofield in combination with

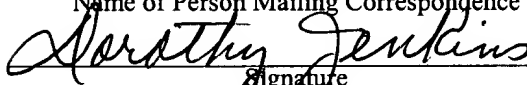
Owens. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are currently in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims is therefore earnestly solicited.


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